Bringing steel research and training institutes under an organisation

3185. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government, in a bid to meet the growing technical and human resource requirements of the steel industry, are planning to bring all existing steel research and training institutes under an umbrella organisation and also plan to almost double its funding for research and development activities in the steel sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. while it has been envisaged in the National Steel Policy (NSP) that the existing training and research institutes under the Ministry of Steel would be brought under an umbrella organization with representation from each segment of the industry, but similarly placed institutes in the private sector would continue to maintain their independent existence.

Production of iron ore

3186. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual production of iron ore by pub[ic sector companies is far below than that of the private sector companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last five years and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of plant utilisation capacity of public sector companies during the last five years, plant-wise; and

(d) the efforts being made to produce more and more iron ore in the country so as to compete with private players?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. However, it is a recent

phenomenon. The production of iron ore by the public sector and private sector during the last five years is given as under:

(Quantity in million tonnes)

Year	Public Sector	Private Sector
2001-01	43.49	37.27
2001-02	45.09	41.12
2002-03	49.69	49.37
2003-04 (Provisional)	56.90	63.69
2004-05 (Provisional).	57.08	85.62

(Source : IBM, Nagpur)

The significant higher production by private sector during 2003-04 and 2004-05 is on account of unexpected and huge demand from China. The export of iron ore from India is mainly in the form of fines.lt is mainly the private sector which is involved in the export of iron ore. If the Chinese demand declines, the Indian miners will find their markets for fines dwindling. The SME sector mines will once again reduce their operation or become inactive.

(c) The details of capacity utilization of the mines of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC) Orissa Minerals Development Corporation Limited (OMDC) and KIOCI during the last five are annexed, as per Statement *(See* below).

(d) SAIL wil! develop new mines at Chiria, Rowghat, Taldih, Thakurani, South Block (Kiriburu) and Central Block (Meghathaburu). It will also expand its Bolani iron ore mine. NMDC has also made plans to increase the production of iron ore from the present level of around 23 million tonne during 2005-06 to 32 million tonne by the year 2009-10. KIOCL was in possession of only one iron ore mine at Kudremukh in the State of Karnataka, in which the mining operation has been stopped on 31.12.2005, as per the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. KIOCL is trying for allotment of mining lease in the State of Karnataka and Orissa. As regards, Orissa Mineral Development Corporation Limited (OMDC), it has requested the State Pollution Control Board for a No Objection

Certificate (NOC) for increasing annual capacity from the present level of 22.33 lakh tonnes per annum to 99.60 lakh tonnes per annum.

Statement

Capacity utilization of Mines of SAIL, NMDC, OMDC and KIOCL during Last Five Years

(i) Percent Capacity Utilization of Mechanised Iron Ore Mines of Sail

Mines	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-
Kiriburu	81	85	85	85	87
Meghataburu	68	74	83	83	90
Bolani	93	103	110	111	115
Barsua	43	51	58	67	67
Gua	112	107	106	95	118
Rajhara	67	68	97	76	75
Dalli	73	72	86	78	80

SAIL is also operating two manual mines *viz.* Manoharpur and Kalta mine which do not have rated capacity.

(ii) Percent Capacity utilization of mines of NMDC during the last five years

Mines	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Dep. 14&11C	86	99	102	109	124
Dep. 5	110	118	117	119	127
Dep. 10/11A	-	-	-	64	67
Donimalai	114	115	119	139	150
Kumaraswamy	—	—	—	—	—

(iii) Percent capacity utilization of mine of OMDC during the last five years

Year	Capacity Utilisation
2001-02	30%
2002-03	67%
2003-04	138%
2004-05	142%
2005-06	106%

(iv) Percent capacity utilization of KIOCL mine (concentrate plant) during the last five years

Year	Capacity Utilisation (concentrate plant (CP**)
2001-02	81
2002-03	83
2003-04	76
2004-05	65
2005-06	58

** The mining activities at Kudremukh have been stopped on 31.12.2005 on orders of Supreme Court. Accordingly, the rated capacity has been reduced proportionately.

UNDP help to steel sector

3187. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steel has been identified as major consumer of CTC and that SAIL has been offered UNDP help, the officials of which have also visited SAIL plants to implement to phase out CTC to freeze and reduce the ozone depleting substances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action plan for different plants during 2006-07 and 2007-08; and

(d) the steps taken by other steel plants in private sector in this regard?